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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Port Valdez/Lowe River Goat Hunt Closes**

**Cordova** – Registration permit hunt RG245 for mountain goats in Unit 6(D) will close at one minute before midnight on October 18 by emergency order of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Hunt area RG245 includes that portion of Unit 6(D) west of Browns Creek, south of Lowe River and Port Valdez, and north of Jack Bay and the main channel of Jack River.

Aerial surveys and population modeling indicated that a population of about 123 goats resided in registration permit area RG245. The Department set the maximum allowable harvest at 7 goats. Additional take beyond the harvest objective could harm the long-term stability of these populations. According to Cordova Area Biologist Dave Crowley, the quota was reached yesterday with the harvest of 7 billies. “I’m delighted with hunters and guides for their diligence and hard work in taking all male goats in this hunt area” said Crowley. Hunters are encouraged to study and learn sex identification of mountain goats. Information is available at area offices and on the ADF&G website.

This closure affects only registration permit hunt RG245 in Unit 6(D). All other mountain goat hunting regulations in the remainder of Game Management Unit 6 are not affected by this emergency order.